



# News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor

Michael S. Steele  
Lt. Governor

Mary Ann Saar  
Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday July 26, 2006

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**CORRECTIONAL OFFICER FATALLY STABBED AT  
MARYLAND HOUSE OF CORRECTION**  
*Governor Ehrlich Orders All Maryland Flags Flown At Half-Staff  
To Honor Fallen Officer*

Towson, Maryland (July 26, 2006) – The following statement was read by Maryland Division of Correction Commissioner Frank Sizer during a media briefing regarding the tragic death of a Correctional Officer at the Maryland House of Correction (MHC) in Jessup, MD late Tuesday night. Mary Ann Saar, Secretary, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) and Mary L. Livers, Deputy Secretary for Operations were also in attendance during the 10:00 AM news conference at MHC today.

Commissioner Sizer's Statement is as follows:

“ Within the past several months, I have ordered several lockdowns at the Maryland House of Correction because of attacks on staff and inmates. And several shakedowns have been conducted to reduce contraband in the facility.

The institution was first locked down in April when two officers were assaulted.

The second lockdown occurred in May after two inmates were fatally stabbed.

The third lockdown occurred approximately a week ago after another inmate was stabbed and died.

And today, unfortunately again, I must stand before you to announce the death of another correctional officer who lost his life in the line of duty.

It is with deep sadness and regret that I announce the death of Officer David McGuinn who was killed in the line of duty on July 25, 2006. After almost two years of dedicated service, Officer McGuinn has paid the ultimate sacrifice to maintain public safety.

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At approximately 10:00p.m. , Officer McGuinn was conducting a security count of general population inmates on E-Tier of the south wing in the Maryland House Correction when he was attacked by several inmates. The officer, who was wearing a stab vest, called for assistance and officers responded immediately.

Officers responding to assist Officer McGuinn observed that he had been stabbed and notified the medical department at the facility. Officer McGuinn was evaluated and 911 was called. He was transported to Baltimore Washington Medical Center in Anne Arundel County for further medical treatment and expired at 11:03p.m.

Officer McGuinn received stab wounds to the neck and lower torso area.

Several suspects are being questioned regarding this incident.

As a result of this tragic and violent act, the Emergency Operations Center at the institution was activated at Midnight Wednesday, July 26th and will remain in effect indefinitely. Additionally, Special Response Teams have been deployed from other prisons across the state to assist staff at the House of Corrections with searches and to help maintain operations at the facility.

We have lost another family member and our hearts are heavy but we will not be deterred. We will continue to confront acts of violence in our prisons.

Maryland State Police are conducting the investigation in this homicide.”

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich has ordered all Maryland flags to be flown at half-staff until sunset on the day of the funeral of Correctional Officer David McGuinn.

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